

Comprehensive Policy Plan
"Public Spaces"

Policy Letter 608: Activity Centers

BACKGROUND:

Neighborhoods in Fargo typically have a focal point or a location for the residents in the area to gather. These focal points are many times linked to the neighborhood system of parks through walkways and public spaces. This neighborhood center is designed to attract and accommodate the needs of all residents.

The mini-mall developments along high traffic corridors are perceived to be the focal point of some neighborhoods in Fargo. These developments could evolve into a strong neighborhood focal point if landscape design and public green space criteria were enhanced. Additionally, the activity center would have to be linked to the neighborhood park system.

Residents need a place to gather. Some neighborhoods may have an activity center. Some neighborhoods may have a focal point that developed around an elementary school. Future land use development in Fargo will include the siting of several City buildings. Neighborhood activity centers could be strengthened through the co-location of public facilities and commercial facilities.

POLICY STATEMENT:

The City of Fargo should encourage development proposals that include the co-location of public facilities, as well as with commercial facilities. Facilities such as fire stations or library branches should be sited in neighborhoods to serve and function as a focal point when feasible.*

CONCLUSION:

Activity centers along high traffic corridors may be the focal point for areas that have developed without an elementary school. Not all area plans may have a need for an activity center, but land use development proposals should be encouraged to use this option in design.

* See also Policy 207